SERVICE

OF

REDEDICATION

COLUMBIA COLLEGE

COLUMBIA, S. C.

December 15, 1958

COLUMBIA COLLEGE

DR. R. WRIGHT SPEARS, *Presiding*

Distinguished Guests Participating in the Service of Rededication

Bishop Nolan B. Harmon — Reverend F. S. James

Dr. A. C. Holler — Reverend E. S. Jones

The Board of Trustees — The Board of Visitors

Methodist Ministers of Columbia

District Superintendents

Hymn

The world's astir! The clouds of storm have melted into light
Whose streams, aglow from fountains warm, have driven back the night.
Now brightens dawn toward golden day; the earth is full of song,
Far stretch the shining paths away, spring forward! Hearts, be strong!

Give us the wisdom from above; we pledge our loyalty;
Change flash of hope to flame of love, and doubt to certainty.
In Thy great will, O Master Mind, in Thee, O Master Heart,
Our guerdon and our guide we find: our Lord, our King, Thou art.

AMEN.

MUSIC FOR THE SERVICE

Preludes: Quem Pastores Laudavere
Now Be Welcome
Psalm 150
} Christmas Suite.....*Cor Kee*

FRED H. PARKER

Consecration (from "Parsifal").....*Richard Wagner*

COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHOIR—GUTHRIE DARR, *Director*

TIBBY PLYLER, *Organ Accompaniment*

Organ Postlude: Toccata Advent Suite.....*Pietro Yon*

FRED H. PARKER

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Service of Rededication

Organ Prelude

The Call to Worship

(The people will stand and remain standing until after the hymn of praise.)

Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?
And who shall stand in his holy place?
He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
Who does not lift up his soul to what is false,
And does not swear deceitfully.
He will receive blessing from the Lord,
And vindication from the God of his salvation.
Such is the generation of those who seek him,
Who seek the face of the God of Jacob.[1]

The Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Prayer of Invocation

Eternal God, in whom we live, and move, and have our being, we give Thee thanks that Thou hast called us to reconsecrate ourselves to Thee and to Thy service. We praise Thee for men of old who, without obtaining the promises, lived in the highest faith, making continual sacrifices for generations yet unborn. May we be worthy to follow in their train. Amen.

The Hymn of Praise

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[1] Psalm 24:3-6, Revised Standard Version.

The Responsive Reading

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil. It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones.

Honor the Lord with your substance and with the first fruits of all your produce;

Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it.

Happy is the man who finds wisdom, and the man who gets understanding, for the gain from it is better than gain from silver and its profit better than gold. She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her.

Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honor. Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her; those who hold her fast are called happy.

The Lord by wisdom founded the earth; by understanding he established the heavens;

By his knowledge the deeps broke forth, and the clouds drop down the dew.

My son, keep sound wisdom and discretion; let them not escape from your sight, and they will be life for your soul and adornment for your neck. Then you will walk on your way securely and your foot will not stumble. If you sit down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet.

Do not be afraid of sudden panic, or of the ruin of the wicked, when it comes; for the Lord will be your confidence and will keep your foot from being caught.[1]

The Anthem

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[1] Proverbs 3:5-9, 13-27, Revised Standard Version.

The Scripture Reading (from Hebrews 11-12)

The Address

The Declaration of Purpose

BISHOP:

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Having chosen to serve God with all our mind, with all our heart, and with all our strength, it is well that we should continually remind ourselves and all who behold us that Christ is our light, our salvation, and our eternal hope. On this solemn occasion, let us with willing hearts, joyful minds, and eager spirits renew our allegiance to the vows given of old in faith, and realized today in the glories of this occasion. We are appointed to our places and work. The yoke of our responsibility is willingly taken. We are heartily content that our reward shall be in Christ. Christ has commended to us many services. Some are easy; others are difficult. Some bring honor; others bring reproach. Some are suitable to our inclinations; others are contrary to what we would do by preference. In some we may please Christ and please ourselves; in others we cannot please Christ except we deny ourselves. Yet our tasks are not to be valued by whether they give us or deny us what we want, whether they bring honor or reproach, but rather that they bring unto God the glory. For all power is His who strengthens us.

PRESIDENT:

We rededicate ourselves to the cause of Christ in the field of Christian higher education. We are humbly aware that we are debtors to those who have builded before us. As good workmen in the Lord, they sought a city of fixed foundations whose builder and maker is God.

As they have passed on to us an institution of integrity, may we with firm resolve continue the task of Christian education. In a world shattered by violence and clamorous for temporary securities, we are determined that this community of scholarship shall not be intimidated by false loyalties. We will maintain our search for the truth. We resolve to pursue this search with intellectual vigor, moral vision, and critical insight.

We accept our accountability both to the world of learning and to the Church which gave us birth and sustains us in our growth. Thus we gladly rededicate ourselves to the cultivation of a sensitive Christian conscience, guided by an enlightened mind.

BISHOP:

Let us pray:

Eternal God, we ask Thy guidance for administrators to whom Thou hast entrusted the riches of the past for the blessing of the present. May they be inspired by Thy vision of the future, and directed by Thy creative hand. Amen.

TRUSTEE:

We reconsecrate ourselves to the cause of Christian higher education. We have entered into the fruits of our fathers, and we are resolved that in us they shall be made perfect. As trustees of the future, we will support this institution with our prayers, our dreams, and our material resources. We will protect the freedom of the faculty and students in their intellectual quest. We will discharge our responsibility to the Church with a reverent devotion to that which it has committed to our charge.

BISHOP:

Let us pray:

O Thou who guidest the destinies of all men and institutions, we thank Thee for these who hold in trust for Thee and Thy

Church the resources of this institution. As they discharge their responsibilities, may that mind be in them which is in Christ Jesus.

MEMBER OF FACULTY:

We rededicate ourselves to the cause of Christian higher education. Ours is a precious heritage of learning. As we seek to teach others, we discover ourselves also to be students. To the vocation of teacher and student we give ourselves, our minds, and our strength.

BISHOP:

Let us pray:

We pray for our teachers. In them we pray for all men. In them is vested the hope of our future and the measure of our loyalties. Among those they teach are our future teachers and leaders, our professional men and women of influence, and many others of dignity and devotion. We pray that they will be faithful agents in every good cause, and that this community of the mind shall be also a faithful community of Thy love and design.

A REPRESENTATIVE STUDENT:

We, the students of this institution, join the generations of those who have sought like ourselves to know and to serve the best. We seek in this Christian atmosphere that guidance which alone can help us to face life's deepest questions. Here we would find not knowledge only, but wisdom, and valor for the making of a good society of men and women who in all of life's relationships will serve God in holy freedom.

BISHOP:

Let us pray:

Eternal God, we thank Thee for the eager minds and willing spirits of youth. We praise Thee that Thou hast put it in the

hearts of youth to seek not only intellectual enlightenment, but moral discipline which will enable them to use their knowledge in the service of God. We pray Thee that nothing shall dim their enthusiasm for the truth which can make them worthy of Thy kingdom. May they on this campus and in these halls find such love and desire for Thee that they shall eternally be Thine. Amen.

The Act of Rededication

(Then, all standing, the bishop shall say, the people responding:)

You have heard how God of old led our forefathers to lay the foundations of this institution through sacrifice and toil. You have heard the leaders of this day declare anew their faith in the cause of Christian higher education. It now becomes our privilege to uphold their hands and to renew our own consecration to the cause of Christ as represented here at this institution:

To the glory of God the Father, who has called us by his grace;
To the honor of his Son, who loved us and gave himself for us;
To the praise of the Holy Spirit, who illumines and sanctifies us;
We rededicate this college.

To the beauties of Thine infinite universe;
To the contemplation of Thy glorious design, both seen and unseen;
To those poets, musicians and artists who celebrate the beautiful in earthly forms, and thus enrich our lives;
We rededicate this college.

To the secrets of the natural world unfolded to us;
To the laboratories and instruments of science;
To the men who use them in studying the mysteries of Thy creation;
We rededicate this college.

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